

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fourth Essex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.

Residents of Fourth Essex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 0.3% (349) of these admissions reside in the Fourth Essex Representative District. 8% (27) of admissions from the Fourth Essex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Fourth Essex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 76% were male and 24% were female.
- 47% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 91% were white non-Latino, 2% were black non-Latino, 4% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 61% were never married, 19% were married, and 20% reported not to be married now.
- 18% had less than high school education, 46% completed high school, and 36% had more than high school education.
- 47% were employed.
- 6% were homeless.
- 39% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fourth Essex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	59%	26%	9%	1%	1%
State	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2002 Fourth Essex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	269	221	76	45	27	40	28
FY '96	264	234	84	43	24	37	34
FY '97	274	231	104	54	36	54	38
FY '98	312	247	94	56	33	96	78
FY '99	231	193	70	46	22	64	59
FY '00	298	252	92	48	12	68	50
FY '01	309	261	88	54	20	60	45
FY '02	349	270	104	59	12	100	77